

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 33

By Trail

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of the Honorable John  
Barrett Melton, Jr. of Woodbury.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of John Barrett Melton, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Woodbury, Mr. Melton served with acumen and alacrity as a distinguished attorney and as a community leader of utmost merit; he earned the respect and admiration of his peers and of the members of his community for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Melton was a commendable public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a former member of the United States Air Force, Mr. Melton joined the ranks of those devoted airmen who have protected and ensured the freedom of the people of this state and our nation; and

WHEREAS, John Barrett Melton, Jr. earned an undergraduate degree at Middle Tennessee State University before pursuing his legal education at the Nashville School of Law and receiving a Doctorate of Jurisprudence; and

WHEREAS, endowed with the rare ability to relate to people from all walks of life, this distinguished attorney maintained a successful legal practice in Woodbury and was the partner of renowned House Speaker James H. "Mr. Jim" Cummings; and

WHEREAS, a native son of Cannon County, Mr. Melton learned much of the knowledge that led to his legal success from his father, legendary trial lawyer, J. Barrett Melton; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Melton served with honor and distinction as Assistant District Attorney General for the State of Tennessee from 1963 to 1984; he also served his state and community as Chancery Court Clerk of Cannon County; and

WHEREAS, a man of immense character and unquestionable integrity, John Barrett Melton, Jr. was a highly respected member of the Woodbury community whose service and devotion to his family, his profession, his friends, and his fellow citizens were of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Melton was an active and devout member of the Woodbury Church of Christ where he was an inspiration to many; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Melton was also deeply devoted to his family and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, this devoted husband and father enjoyed the loving companionship of Martha Dean Turner Melton and was the proud parent of Susan Melton and daughter-in-law, Barbara Vance Melton, and of the late John Barrett Melton III; Mr. Melton was also the caring and generous grandfather of Jason Barrett Melton and Emily Melton Hargrove; and

WHEREAS, following a difficult illness which he bore with considerable grace and heroic good cheer, John Barrett Melton, Jr. died on November 14, 2000; he leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his professional endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and remarkable citizen; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of John Barrett Melton, Jr. reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction as a distinguished attorney, Assistant Attorney General for the State of Tennessee, and Chancery Court Clerk of Cannon County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Melton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.